

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

Vol. 20, No. 19

TORONTO 2, CANADA

September 8th, 1928

LOUD SPEAKERS

"White Shadows in the South Seas" is the hit of history at \$2 New York and Los Angeles. M-G-M beats the field with the biggest sound road show on the market! Hot dog!

William Haines in "Excess Baggage" takes State Theatre, Los Angeles, like a tornado. Sound or silent, it's the big noise of '28-'29!

"Our Dancing Daughters" with ravishing Joan Crawford makes b.o. history in Syracuse, Baltimore, etc. Sound or silent it's the loud speaker for September!

M-G-M line-up for new season is talk of the industry. "Excess Baggage," "Our Dancing Daughters"—and Lon Chaney in "While the City Sleeps" are just appetizers!

"Two Tars" the Laurel-Hardy wow is the only 2-reel comedy to play at \$2. And what a gold mine at the Embassy, N.Y. You'll go nuts about it!

M-G-M Hal Roach comedies for new season greater than ever. Plus sound! M-G-M Movietone News in preparation. Laugh those off!

The industry marvels at M-G-M sound progress. Sound studios East and West. Broadway's biggest acts in M-G-M Movietone. Shorts and features in sound all set to go!

The outstanding business is being done by M-G-M. "Mysterious Lady" (Garbo) "Four Walls" (Gilbert) each held over 2 weeks at Capitol. Marion Davies in "Cardboard Lover" another riot! Hot damn!

THE LION ROARS!

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER



KEEP THIS AD!

*It's the low-down on the
New Season which now begins—*



"Put this ad in the files, Tillie,
and show it to me at the end
of September."

M-G-M September releases are
NOW ready for screening,
BOTH Sound and Silent—
WILLIAM Haines in **EXCESS BAGGAGE**
IS a wonder, a marvel, a pippin
TO see or hear (or both!)
OUR DANCING DAUGHTERS (Joan Crawford)
PRE-RELEASED in Syracuse and Baltimore
DID biggest business of months!



Congratulations Bill
Haines, you'll bring ex-
cess profits with "Excess
Baggage." It will be
the talk of '28-'29!



Your name in electrics
makes countless mil-
lions happy More than
ever—Lon Chaney
you're the dough!

LON Chaney's thriller
"WHILE THE CITY SLEEPS" is
ANOTHER "Unholy Three."
"THE BELLAMY TRIAL" is the
GREATEST court-room drama
EVER made (plus gripping talking episodes).



Joan Crawford you're
gorgeous in "Our
Dancing Daughters."
They love you. They
want you more and
more. And why not!

UNQUESTIONABLY M-G-M has
THE grandest line-up of history!
ALL aboard for a money-year with
THE Happiness Boys of the industry.



**THEY'RE ON
BROADWAY NOW:**
The only two-reel comedy to
play at a \$2 house Wowing
them indefinitely at the
Embassy, N Y

STAN
LAUREL OLIVER
 HARDY

in **TWO TARS**
The first of Hal Roach's
M-G-M laugh-louder hits
for the new season.

METRO-GOLDWYN PICTURES

Canadian Moving Picture DIGEST

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RAY LEWIS
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Show Business vs. Finance



RAY LEWIS

IN THE good old days stars and players gathered around the board of good cheer, or stood on street corners and discussed how great they were in their respective parts, and what a "fat" part they were going to get in a coming production. This enthusiasm prevailed in the Drama, in Vaudeville, and in Motion Pictures. Being a hit with the manager, or producer, with the public, appeared to be the "big idea" as it related itself to the players.

In the good old days, producers, or showmen covered the tablecloths of restaurants with figures representing their profits on coming productions, or the cost of productions now being released, or presented.

Showmen talked about how clever their stars were, what a good show they had; and the number of play dates they had secured, or were going to secure. They talked of percentages or rentals, or guaranties. All their talk was Show Talk, but "times have changed."

Today the old showmen, those who have hung on, and those who are trying to hang on, those who are letting go, all their talk is centralized around Finance.

The show business of today appears to have become a Stock Exchange; with showmen as brokers and members. The new showmen appear to be financiers interested in the show business only; and their talk is not theatres, pictures, players, but Finance, the theatre and pictures being but a "means to an end," the end Finance.

The Theatre world is full of flotations and more talk of flotations. Visit England, visit America, there is no difference, save that on the American continent it appears that the public has a better chance to capitalize on its investment.

The entire Industry of pictures appears to be veined with this Financial gambling strain. Salesmen, managers, publicity men all watching the market. Nor is this boom restricted to pictures only, it has invaded all phases of entertainment.

Stars and players, directors and authors having passed through the financial inflation of salaries, are now watching the stock manipulation of their masters; and wondering if it is not more profitable to put over a picture flotation, than to work in pictures.

Some may be led to believe that this is a sign that motion pictures, the drama, vaudeville have become more business-like, more financially solid, but this very business factor, introduced into a business, which must remain a "Show Business" in order to retain its unique qualities, differentiating it from other Industrial enterprise, other commerce, this business attribute has a destructive angle as it relates itself to the Art of Entertainment, which should not be overlooked.

It is better for "Show Business" that it retain much of its temperamental qualities even though its commercial instincts remain undeveloped as a consequence.

The financial aspects of the "Show Business" should be entirely separated from the department which centralizes on the production and the preservation of entertainment.

The Financial Wizards should take into consideration the temper of the "buying public." Unless there is more attention paid to securing the public's money by delivering entertainment, the possibilities of securing the public's money by selling entertainment as an investment will be greatly curtailed, and with the front and back door of the Treasury closed, "Show Business" will deteriorate into being a rather poor business proposition.

If some of the energy which is expended in conceiving, and working out plans for the manipulation of finance, was directed towards the study of the public in connection with entertainment, and entertainment as it relates itself to the public, there would be less need of seeking ways and means to secure public finance by way of the stock market. The box-office would be the underwriter and the dividend-producer.

Ray Lewis

Ray Presents

DURING my visit to England I could not help but be impressed with the position of the British Gaumont Enterprise.

I had an interview with Col. Bromhead, and enjoyed the solidity and showmanship vision which this gentleman expressed. No interview, in fact, which I had in England with representatives of the Film Industry gave me more hope for a British Film Industry than the conversation I had with Col. Bromhead.

COL. BROMHEAD'S idea, in relationship to the establishment of a British Film Industry, coincides with proposals which I suggested several years ago, suggestions which Col. Bromhead had proposed to the members of his board and which were being carried out.

IT IS the intention of this company to produce quality pictures, realizing that every picture cannot be a 100 per cent, but that every picture can at least contain a sufficient quality of entertainment, to make it marketable.

It is the intention to establish releasing units throughout the British Empire, building up from these centres and the Home Exchange in England, world distribution and affiliations.

THE British Gaumont impresses me as enjoying the dominant film position in England. They own and control about three hundred of the finest theatres; and are building, or preparing to build, planning new theatres throughout Great Britain at all the key centres.

All the theatres are first class in appearance and in management. The studio is fully equipped, although accommodation only permits one producing unit to work at a time, with complete laboratory facilities for printing, etc.

IHAD a cup of tea with Maurice Elvey, perhaps one of England's best known directors, since Mr. Elvey has been consistently directing ever since that period when England began to think seriously of producing Motion Pictures.

ISAW some of the stuff in the making and some stills of finished pictures, which looked like the real thing.

Finding out what we wanted over here was what concerned Mr. Elvey most, and I never met a producer who was so little in-

terested in hearing himself talk; and so eager to capture our reactions, desires and ideas relative to British production.

ISAW, adjoining the studio at Shepherd's Bush, rows and rows of houses, freehold property, owned by this company, ready to be turned into studio space as soon as the market demanded a greater supply of films; and producing units became sufficiently eager for studio space to meet the demands.

I note an editorial in The Daily Film Renter to Col. Bromhead, which reads in part, "he," meaning Col. Bromhead, "is looked upon as one of the most stable figures, if we may use that word, within our Industry, by it we mean that he and his business stand for a remarkably level standard of efficiency which has borne fruit in the amazing ramifications of the various enterprises connected with Gaumont."

THIS is exactly what I felt in talking to Col. Bromhead. No "hanky-panky" business. Straight from the shoulder talk and a knowledge behind the talk that knows the possibilities of a British Film Industry, its obstacles, and its limitations.

Incidentally this company need have no concern concerning Flotations. Their finance is secure and secured.

IRECEIVED a parchment, illuminated lettering, gold seal, and red ribbon, all the academic frills, from Nat Rothstein, director of Universal advertising.

My first impression was that some university had conferred a degree upon Universal, but after reading the context and noting the signatures, I saw that every man of importance in the Universal unit had affixed his name to a parchment, which expressed that the Movietone synchronization in "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and "The Last Laugh" stand supreme in the present era of sound films."

FAR be it from me not to be impressed. Those signatures, which include our genial and canny Carl Laemmle, R. H. Cochrane, P. D. Cochrane, Fred McConnell, affectionately called "Mac," Paul Gulick and Rothstein, plus many more names of prominence in this organization stand for showmanship knowledge and box-office values, and anyway that parchment de luxe, the Diploma of Degree, is classy enough to make me start off sold on the idea that "Uncle Tom's

Cabin," and "The Last Laugh" are synchronized to a superlative degree. What else can I say for you, Nat? And does it not bear out my intention that it always pays to advertize?

Oscar Hanson Speaker Nat. Council of Women

Oscar Hanson, general manager of Canadian Educational Films Ltd., was the speaker at the Women's Bldg., Canadian National Exhibition for the National Council of Women.

This organization is interested in British Films and Better Pictures; and Mr. Hanson emphasized in his address the importance of the box-office as a barometer of public opinion.

"The most effective method to employ in securing British Pictures, or any other brand of pictures, Educational and the various Trademarks which are being released, or Better Pictures as you term them, is to register your desires at the box-office. The Theatre-Owner is inspired to purchase those pictures which the public come to see. The box-office appears to be the true barometer of public opinion in respect to entertainment. Patronize the pictures you want. Stay away from those you are not interested in, and your theatre-owner will naturally present those pictures which he has learned attract your patronage."

In addition to Mr. Hanson there was another speaker, Dr. E. A. Hardy, chairman of the Committee for Better Films of the Ontario Social Service Council.

Dr. Hardy contended that Canadian scenery would provide a wonderful background for Canadian films.

"It has been estimated that 20 per cent of the population went to see the movies every day, therefore, claimed Dr. Hardy, motion pictures were certain to influence the lives and homes of Canadian people."

Ontario was said to have one of the strictest censorships on the continent, and much had been done to improve the Motion Pictures and to keep out obnoxious films."

"The producers themselves, both in Canada and the United States, were exerting a great effort to elevate the movies."

An important note in Mr. Hanson's address was the statement that after January 1st, 1929, all British films of value will be produced in Canada.

Mrs. Patrick MacGregor, president of the Local Council of Women, said, "I entreat every one of you to make yourself an agent for these British Films. Let your children be brought up on British Films, British traditions, and British flag."

British International Complete World Chain

**Fifty European Films Yearly,
John Maxwell Guarantees
British Distribution, U. .
and Canada**

World wide film distribution, through a unit organized for that special purpose, has been launched through the incorporation of World Wide Pictures Corporation, according to a statement made by John Maxwell.

Two and Half Million Dollars.

The capitalization is two and a half million dollars and the policy will be to distribute not less than fifty European pictures per year throughout the United States and Canada.

Establish Thirty-Six Exchanges.

This company will establish its own sales force in thirty-six exchanges of the Educational Picture Corporation throughout the United States and Canada, Educational undertaking the physical distribution of British International Pictures.

The directors of the company are J. Douglas, John Maxwell, Earle Hammons and J. D. Williams.

Passengers on the "Ile de France," which arrived in England, included John Maxwell, chairman of British International Pictures; Edwin Carewe and Dolores Del Rio, Joseph P. Kennedy and J. J. Murdock.

WILLIAM DESMOND TALKS TO SCREEN CLUB IN WINNIPEG

Cowboy and Indian pictures are doomed to silence until the talking-moving picture makers can discover a way to prevent a pistol shot sounding like a terrific cannonade in film synchronization. That is the opinion of William Desmond, noted hero of many a Western film, who was entertained by the Screen Club of Winnipeg this week.

Mr. Desmond has temporarily deserted the films for a speaking term on the vaudeville stage, discarding Western roles also as a temporary measure in favor of a vehicle more indicative of his acting ability.

"There's a great uproar in Hollywood today," Mr. Desmond said. "Screen stars who have had no stage experience in their lives are wondering how long they will last with the advent of the talkies. Studios are even establishing schools of elocution in order to give their much-vaunted fan favorites a voice. An elocution teacher could make a fortune in Hollywood today. There is no doubt that the future stars will be actors of stage ability who photograph well."

Mr. Desmond was optimistic regarding the future of the Western film. "It may have its fluctuations in interest, but as long as the rising generation of boys dream of becoming the men that the heroes of the Western film depict, it will never wane in popularity."

Manchester Theatre Deal Involves \$200,000

G. T. Keyes, managing director of the Gaiety Kinema Ltd., is reported as head of a \$200,000 syndicate, which involves an important theatre deal in Manchester, England.

Jos. M. Schenck Invites Russian Commission

Joseph M. Schenck has invited, S. M. Eisenstein, the famous Russian producer of "Potemkin," to visit Hollywood.

Eisenstein, accompanied by a commission, appointed by Sovkino, will visit Hollywood as a forerunner, it is prophesied, of Russo-American film affiliations.

GAUMONT CELEBRATES THIRTIETH BIRTHDAY AS FILM UNIT

Gaumont, now known as British Gaumont, celebrated their thirtieth anniversary as a Film Unit.

Col. Bromhead is to be presented with an address by the exhibitors throughout the country, this with their signatures to be bound in a volume.

The presentation will be made at a luncheon given in Col. Bromhead's honor at the Mayfair Hotel, Tuesday, September 11th.

Mr. H. Victor Davis will officiate.

Announcing the New Model H Motiograph DeLuxe Projector

Entirely New Projector Principle.

Front Shutter entirely eliminated.

Heat on the Film reduced 62½%.

Danger of aperture fires practically gone.

Focus as perfect as the lens will allow.

20% increase in illumination.

Every possible improvement taken care of.

Casting for fitting Movietone apparatus.

You should know about this marvellous new projector. It will be the next you will buy. Full description on receipt of a post card.

THE COLEMAN ELECTRIC Co. - 258 Victoria St. - Toronto, Ont.

Canada's Leading Theatre Supply House

Film Conference, Berlin Resolution Against War

Proposal To Form Exhibitor-Producing Units in Europe.

THE film conference at Berlin closed with a series of resolutions, paramount among which was a proposal by the Deutsches Lichtspiel Syndikat to form a series of European producing units owned by exhibitors.

The proposal was not enthusiastically accepted, nor sponsored. A resolution for the abolition of "hate films," dealing with the War as a background was presented, sponsored by Herr Siegfried, a member of the Reichstag, who appealed to the delegates in assembly to eliminate such productions. The resolution was adopted.

Another resolution dealt with an International Union of Exhibitors of all countries.

This met with a hearty and almost unanimous response. The delegate from Holland suggesting that the International Federation include film producers and the entire film industry.

After much discussion, the resolution was carried; and a committee is to be formed in London, Berlin and Paris to formulate plans for its consummation. The idea is not new since it was proposed several years ago by your editor at the meeting of the M. P. T. O. A. at Boston, however, the main driving force of the Berlin conference, according to the Daily Film Renter, which reported full details of the convention, was the idea to form exhibitor-producing units.

Mr. Victor Davis, president of the C. E. A., was obliged to handle the proposal cautiously, as co-operation of such a proposal could only come with the consent of the members, and in agreement with the various circuit membership, so reads the report.

About six hundred German delegates were present and seventeen representatives from other countries.

"TRIAL OF MARY DUGAN" FIRST M-G-M DIALOGUE

"The Trial of Mary Dugan," which has registered such a pronounced success wherever it has been presented as a stage play; and which enjoyed such a long run on Broadway, has been completed as a dialogue film by M-G-M.

"White Shadows in the South Seas" is M-G-M's first sound production and this feature is reported as playing to packed business at Grauman's Chinese Theatre, Los Angeles, and at the Astor Theatre on Broadway.

Theatre Owners Withdraw From New Association

The withdrawal of Tom Moorehead, of London, Ont., and Gordon Fillman from the Co-Operative Buying Group looked as if a lawsuit might be introduced in an effort by the group to force these theatre owners to adhere to their contract.

Fortunately the policy of arbitration is still very much alive in Toronto; and a voluntary arbitration committee, of which Col. John A. Cooper is a member, convened on the question; and it looks as if an amicable adjustment will soon be forthcoming.

Big Men In World Pictures Organization Predominate

The United Motion Picture Producers, Ltd., which controls the World-Wide Pictures Corporation, has as its president J. Douglas Watson, who is chairman of the United Motion Picture Producers, Ltd., and director of the Parent Trust and Finance Corporation, which is financially interested in United Motion Picture Producers.

Mr. Watson is also vice-chairman of the Eagle, Star and Dominions Company, and is associated as director with several other important enterprises.

John Maxwell, Earle Hammons, "Jaydee" Williams are other big names actively identified with this British Film Enterprise.

"Trail of '98" Opens The Tivoli, London

"The Daily Film Renter" Reviews M-G-M Feature As "Great Picture."

"The Trail of '98," M-G-M's spectacular success, opened at the Tivoli Theatre, London, to big business and The Daily Film Renter in its summary of the picture said, "This great spectacular film has a light but sufficient story running through it. Its scenic arrangement is marvellous. One stupendous scene following rapidly upon another. The trials and difficulties of the gold seekers are set before us with vivid intensity, and the character acting is exceptionally noticeable."

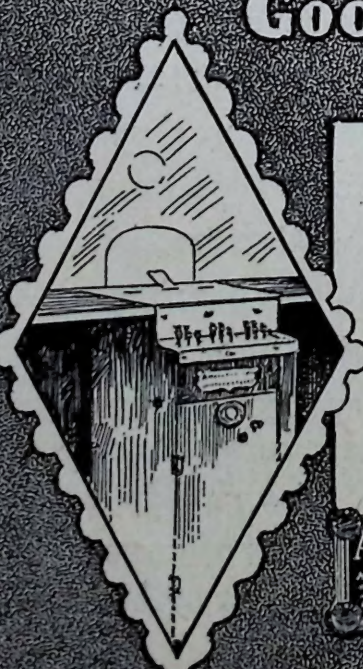
Karl Dane, as the Swede, with his light whimsical incidents, and the acting of Dolores Del Rio, as Berna, smooth but dramatic, partnered by Ralph Forbes.

If one could pick out any particular spectacle of Paramount interest, it is probably the avalanche, which is staged on a stupendous scale. This is in many senses a great picture that should stand up at the Tivoli for many weeks to come."

British Amalgamated Co. In Hands of Receiver

The British Amalgamated Co., with which Edward Godal was connected, is reported as in the hands of a receiver.

The BASIS of GOOD BOX OFFICE Management



**Make the GOLD SEAL
TICKET REGISTER**
the backbone of your
Box Office System

16TH YEAR OF FAITHFUL SERVICE

STANDARD EQUIPMENT USED
BY LEADING CIRCUITS THE
WORLD OVER.

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AUTOMATIC TICKET REGISTER CORPORATION

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USED WHEREVER
TICKETS ARE SOLD

Paramount's "The Patriot," A Tragic Epic

EMIL JANNINGS AT HIS BEST — LEWIS STONE — FLORENCE VIDOR — LUBITSCH SURPASS THEMSELVES.

UPTOWN — Manager Nelson Shea — "The Patriot," with Emil Jannings — Paramount. Class

A. Ernest Lubitsch directed "The Patriot" and created a screen masterpiece of tragedy and subtleties. Here is a picture which gets under the skin for its human emotions, complexes and psychological reactions. A picture which cannot help but delight "High-Brow Alley," with its habitues, who love the truths of plays like O'Neil's "Strange Interlude" and "Porgy"; and yet has enough in dramatic values, and simple flesh-food to satisfy the country yokel, who is still pimply his countenance with his amorous desires. Lubitsch is essentially continental, European, Un-American in his dramatic expression. For with a single flash he registers a Freudian, or Havelock Ellis revelation which is a miracle for its swiftness of getting over a big moment; and which the American mind is still too naive to sense. There is a scene where the Mad Czar Paul and "Count Pahlen" are in confidence. The Count is relating to the Mad Czar the charms of his mistress. The Mad Czar with all his sensual bestiality inflamed, rushes to the boudoir of his mistress; and then returns to his rooms to pick up his cane with which he has whipped those who were unfortunate enough to be the victims of his mania. The action is quick, intense and what the Mad Czar wants with that cane does not become apparent until we see that the Mad Czar places the tiny dog of his mistress outside the closed door he has entered. What is to follow is obvious. But so subtle is this bit of degeneracy put over that "the innocents" will remain innocent; and the intelligentzia can nod to each other knowingly, meanwhile enjoying a tidbit of sex expression which their respectability will prevent them from broadcasting. I select this one incident out of a series, equally detectable from a standpoint of delicacy and subtlety of presentation; and which combine within themselves that attention to emotional details which makes for artistic values. The story begins in 1801, during the reign of one of the Mad Czars of Russia; and throughout the picture, the dramatic values have been built up into a series of climaxes, making "The Patriot" a tragedy so poignant that one cannot but be affected by its thrills. Here is a big picture without any struggle being apparent even in its biggest scenes, from a standpoint of mob assemblies, to make it register big, for the value is in the story, its characters; and the mob, the settings, investiture are but as a suitable, massive frame, might be to a painting of masterful composition. Lewis Stone as "Count Pahlen" does, to my mind, the best work of his career. The restraint, the poise, the intensity of his interpretation makes "Count Pahlen" a character which will long remain a subject of discussion. Florence Vidor as the Countess Ostermann is as beautiful as she is appealing. A lady she looks, a lady enticing and womanly enough for a man of Count Pahlen's type to become enamoured of. The story, by Hans Kraly, adapted from the drama by Alfred Newman, is a credit to the screen. I congratulate Adolphe Zukor and Jesse Lasky, who presented this picture for Paramount, for giving the screen such a dramatic treat. Emil Jannings as the Mad Czar, "Paul," forever ripens in his art, if this is possible for so great an artist. From his first appearance, with the roll of the eye-ball for one fleeting second, Jannings registers the insanity of this Ruler of Russia. Handling his big scene at the finish as a Roman Caesar might have done, interpreted by a Booth, Jannings commands and wins your sympathy for a character obsessed by fear, cunning, demoniacal, and bestial. I have never seen a player who could register sensuality to such a degree as Jannings. His whole countenance grows heavy, Jowls cushion his face, indicating that here is flesh multiplied by the very cells of desire, begetting desire upon desire. Jannings does this by an expression, or by an imperceptible movement, presenting a Bacchus in abandonment, or the glorious animality of a satyr. It is in these moments that one realizes that Jannings was not nursed at the Breasts of the New World Mother; and in his Art one finds the Art of All Ages, the Art of Europe.

—RAY LEWIS

Famous To Confer With Chatham City Council

Discussion of New Theatre For Improving Theatre Facilities of City Is New Move.

Aldermen P. K. Morley and C. E. Clements moved a motion, which was adopted at the regular meeting of the city council calling for a conference with Famous Players Canadian Corp. officials in respect to a new theatre for Chatham.

The subject was introduced by Alderman Morley: "It is sometime since we heard anything about a new theatre for Chatham," he said. He added that he had allowed the matter to remain in abeyance as he had been given to understand that the corporation operating the two theatres here proposed to provide better facilities. He thought the council should be knowing something of any proposals.

Makes Motion.

"I would move that a representative of the company be invited to come here, meet the council and tell us whether it is the intention to provide better accommodation than is being given at the present time," he said.

Alderman Clements, in seconding the motion, also stated that the council should be hearing something.

Speaking to the motion, Alderman Morley said that he understood that there are other places where theatres are hardly suitable. Because they did not all measure up to a desired standard, he did not think that the government should refuse to take any action which would improve, generally, the theatre conditions.

"Chatham is a thriving town, and there is plenty of theatre business," he said. "It seems to me that we are entitled to better accommodation."

The city manager stated that some time ago he received a communication from an official of the company stating that it was working on a proposition. "I have not heard anything further," he said. "It is just possible that the matter is being given attention."

Sir Oswald Stoll Wins Consent For Theatre Merger

Sir Oswald Stoll has won the consent of his stockholders for the amalgamation of nine of his moving picture and music hall enterprises, through an exchange of shares.

When the subject was first broached there was some dissension owing to the fact that some companies were lucrative, while others were unprofitable.

Fire Law Changes Smokeless Theatres

Fire Chief Davies of Edmonton Presents No Theatre Smoking By-Law.

Fire Chief Davies of Edmonton, Alta., has recommended that the city by-laws be amended to prevent smoking in city theatres, dance halls and other public places of entertainment. The recommendation has had the endorsement of Henry Brace, provincial fire commissioner. The Edmonton Bulletin reports as follows:

"Mr. Brace urged that the amendment be supported by the city council and declared that several cases of smoking in dance halls and other places of amusement where hazard to life and property was entailed had been reported to him recently by his inspectors. The commissioner suggested that properly insulating smoking rooms be established in theatres, dance halls and other buildings of this type.

No Kill-joy.

In his letter to the mayor Mr. Brace said: "I want to assure you that I am no kill-joy or non-smoker, neither is there anybody who more appreciates the fact that it is undesirable to in-

fluct on the long-suffering public any laws and regulations of a restrictive nature other than that are absolutely necessary for protection. When we consider the enormous fire loss in the province in 1927, when 33 lives were lost and damage of \$2,338,777.93 caused, we must recognize that it is the public who must suffer and any measure to safeguard their interests in this connection will be appreciated by all right-minded persons."

At a recent meeting of the city by-laws committee, Chief Davies was instructed to report on the exact scope of his recommendations."

CENSOR BOARD TO HAVE "DIVINE" REV. BOB PEARSON FOR JOB

The Censorship Board of Ontario is to have the Rev. Robert Pearson, former M. L. A., as an addition to its board.

Rev. Pearson returned to Lethbridge Monday evening from an 8,000 mile sight-seeing trip in the States. This took him as far south as California by auto. Interviewed by The Albertan, Tuesday, Mr. Pearson stated that he had had a wonderful trip without motor trouble of any kind.

His farewell services at Wesley Church, of which he is the retiring pastor, will take place Sunday, when Mr. Pearson will preach morning and evening. The evening congregation will be augmented by that of Knox Church. In all probability Mr. Pearson will assume the duties of the movie censor at a very early date.

FOR SALE

Four Hundred Opera Seats, stage scenery, projection machine, ticket chopper, piano. Must be sold at once. Apply W. E. Mills, Box 792, Frankford. Phone 128.

Our Fast Growing List of New Customers is Proof That Our Goods and Prices are Right

We are direct factory representatives for Simplex and Powers Projectors, Strong and Peerless 'Reflecting Arcs, Roth Transformers, Silversheet Tearproof Screens, Newman Ticket Choppers, Pyrene Fire Extinguishers Panic Bolts, in fact, everything needed in a theatre. Mail Orders filled on day received.

Canadian Theatre & Electrical Supplies Ltd.
61 ALBERT ST. Phone AD. 4837 TORONTO

Another Example "Variety's" Bad Taste

I noticed that "Variety" had a headline, "Kate Pullman Eugenic Ma." For a moment I wondered if "Variety" was the father of that baby, since "Variety" thought the baby and its mother important enough to the Show Business for such a headline.

Incidentally if "Variety" ever had the capacity to conceive a baby, "Variety" would realize that a mother of such a baby has enough trouble to compensate her for her bravery, without having "Variety" headline the event.

This Industry of Entertainment has also enough pains, "labour pains" included, through undesirable publicity without "Variety" heralding the fact that one of our players has given birth to a baby where the father is an incident.

A society woman, economically independent, may indulge in the luxury of an eugenic fatherless child, if she has developed beyond the pale of public opinion, but only a few players have been permitted to enter society thru the genius of their ability; and the Industry of Entertainment, as it relates itself to Vaudeville and Vaudeville has related itself to Motion Pictures, has to observe public opinion, since it is dependent upon public opinion for sustenance.

If the censors will not permit the child of an unwed mother to live in a picture, are the reformers likely to agree to the appearance of an unwed mother on the stage; and if Kate Pullman can escape the Evil Eye of reformers, what reception will she receive from a public whose sense of appreciation of unwed mothers is still undeveloped and lascivious?

I can see Cannon Chase, chasing Kate Pullman from the stage; and I can see a certain class of booking agents laboring under the opinion that if Kate Pullman has had one baby, because a man happened to be six foot plus 190 lbs., handsome, etcetra, that Kate Pullman need not be offended if they suggest the inspiration for more babies.

It is not fair to the mother, nor the baby, for "Variety" to take advantage of an "unsigned wire" which "tipped 'Variety' to Miss Pullman's son," according to this paper's own published statement.

The fact that Miss Pullman was a partner of the alleged father of another eugenic baby; and that she severed her business relationship with this gentleman on becoming aware of the facts, is no reason for a publication to "discover" her.

Such digging up of facts for news material, for headline, shows a lack of a newspaper consciousness, and conscience; and I regret that "Variety" persists in stamping itself as the Industry's worst example of literary Bad Taste! Kidding oneself about one's deficiencies does not cover one's iniquities; and since charity covers a multitude of sins, "Variety" might learn to be charitable at least.

"Show Life" Big Success First Showing, Berlin

British International Pictures Ltd., Registers German Triumph.

The British International Pictures Ltd., feature "Show Life," registered a triumph at its premiere showing in Berlin.

Anna May Wong and the other players were accorded a warm and sincerely friendly reception.

At the banquet which followed the opening Betty Balfour and Alexander d'Arcy were guests.

RETURNS TO AMERICA FOREIGN CONDITIONS "VERY INTERESTING"

Hunt Stromberg, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer producer, arrived back in New York last week on the Ile de France, after a six-week European trip. During his foreign stay Mr. Stromberg visited England, France, Germany, Switzerland and Italy, interviewing talent and making a study of film conditions on the continent and Great Britain. While withholding a detailed statement as to his reaction, he declared that foreign conditions were "very interesting."

Montreal Managers Visit Deputy-Minister Labor

Seek Information Concerning Admittance Children Under Sixteen and Child Employment At Theatres.

Theatre Managers of Montreal visited the office of Louis Guyon, deputy minister of Labor, concerning the admission of children under sixteen years of age to theatres.

Monsieur Guyon stated that his department could not do anything in the matter concerning child-admittance as these regulations have been placed under the jurisdiction of the respective municipalities.

The Deputy Minister of Labor's Department is normally charged with the enforcement of all by-laws affecting public halls.

The theatre managers further inquired for definite instructions concerning the hiring of children for acting purposes and the deputy minister informed them that the present statute of 1925, which repealed the statute of 1910, permitted children, without age specification being engaged for theatre performance providing these juvenile employees could read and write.

Round About the Studios



"Sioux Blood" is Tim McCoy's next for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

Jeanette Loff, who is making rapid strides on the Pathe lot, appears as leading lady in "The Black Ace," the Pathe western starring Don Coleman, which is an early September release. Since her work in this picture, Miss Loff has been assigned a row of featured roles in some of Pathe's best feature bets for the new season.

Saul Resnick has been appointed by Al Lichtman of United Artists as Sales Manager of the Minneapolis branch. He succeeds Herbert Hayman, who has resigned.

Among the songs to be sung by the star during the action of the story are "It All Depends on You," "I'm Sitting On Top of the World," "The Spaniard Who Blighted My Life," "There's a Rainbow Round My Shoulder," "Golden Gate," "Trouble's a Bubble" and "Sunny Boy." The last named song figures in three different sequences and is sung by Jolson to four-year-old Davey Lee, who portrays his son in "The Singing Fool."

George Davis is back at Educational Studios after a few days in the hospital following the removal of his tonsils.

Six additional featured players have been added to the cast of "A Woman of Affairs," Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's new co-starring vehicle for John Gilbert and Greta Garbo, which is now in production under Clarence Brown's direction.

The new names are Gertrude Astor, Cyril Chadwick, Blanche Craig, Fred Esmelton, Charles Hagen and F. Finch Smiles. Others in the supporting cast of the picture include Lewis Stone, Hobart Bosworth, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., and John Mack Brown.

Curtisi Benton has completed a continuity for "The Minstrel Man," a talking-singing-dancing picture for which minstrels are being summoned to Universal City from all corners of the United States.

Al St. John, whose short subject comedies were mentioned with those of Chaplin and Keaton, is to make his bow in a featured picture in a role that Henry King has given him in "She Goes To War," Rupert Hughes' Red Book story which Inspiration Pictures is making for United Artists. Gertrude Astor also has been signed for this film.

Grantland Rice, famed for his Sport-light reel released by Pathe, was guest speaker for Don Hancock, over WEA and WRC recently, taking over the latter's Monday movie news period to tell the radio fans something about the making of the sports film, produced in association with J. L. Hawkinson and presented by Amedee J. Van Beuren.

Charles Brabin will direct the screen version of "The Bridge of San Luis Rey," the Pulitzer prize novel which was recently purchased by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. Production is scheduled to start within a month's time, but no selections for the cast have yet been announced.

Universal last week purchased "When the Devil Was Sick," by E. J. Rath, author of the play, "The Nervous Wreck," adapted by Owen Davis. "When the Devil Was Sick" appeared serially in one of the Munsey magazines and was published last year by G. Howard Watt. It is intended for the use of Reginald Denny.

"Gold," a Tiffany Color Classic, is now in the course of production under the direction of Martin Justis with Harvey Clark playing the lead. He is supported by such well known screen players as Harry Murray, Dorothy Nourse and Ed-die Barnell.

Production on "Saps and Saddles," the first of a series of twelve two-reel comedy westerns featuring George Chandler and directed by Walter Fabian, started this week, according to announcement made by Carl Laemmle, president of Universal Pictures Corp.

Chandler will have Regina Doyle as leading lady in "Saps and Saddles." William Lord Wright will supervise the production.



Karl Dane, a Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer star, who can always be depended upon to give real entertainment.



Milt Gross, famous cartoonist and humorist, who is employed as a gag man at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studios.

Two of this season's features on the big Pathe schedule were previewed this week on the West Coast. "Show Folks" and "Marked Money" were both given audience tests at the Carmel Theatre in Los Angeles. Both pictures are reported as having been very well received.

One of the best supporting casts ever assembled at Educational Studios is supporting Monty Collins in the current Mermaid Comedy now in production under the direction of Stephen Roberts.

Vernon Dent, Robert Graves, Al Thompson and Bert Young have the principal male supporting role, while the leading lady is Betty Boyd. Eva Thatcher, character woman identified with Educational Comedies for the last four years, also has an important part in the picture.

Lili Damita, whose sensational beauty and talent caused her to be brought to this country by Samuel Goldwyn, who will star her in feature productions, will probably be first seen in Pathe's "Forbidden Love." This feature was produced in Germany from Neil Coward's play, "The Queen Was in the Parlor," and will be released in November. It is described as strongly dramatic, and giving the foreign star a great role.

Two of Universal's sound pictures were finished at Universal City last week. They are "The Shake Down" with James Murray and Barbara Kent, directed by William Wyler, and "It Can Be Done," a Glenn Tryon starring vehicle directed by Fred Newmeyer.

Albert Ray has been engaged by Tiffany-Stahl to direct Belle Bennett in her next starring vehicle for that company entitled "The Queen of Burlesque."

Sam DeGrasse has been cast in the role of the district attorney in the Paul Fejos Conrad Veidt-Mary Philbin picture, "Erik the Great," now being made at Universal City. Anders Randolph plays the judge, George Irving the defense attorney, and Charles Clary the assistant district attorney.

PATHE NEWS AGAIN SCOOPS 'EM ALL!

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